CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1575
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Proposal by the President
on the programme of work for the 1999 session of the CD

The Conference on Disarmament takes the following decisions:

1. To re-establish, for the duration of its 1999 session, the Ad hoc Committee under agenda item 4 entitled "Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons", to negotiate with a view to reaching agreement on effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons. These arrangements could take the form of an internationally legally binding instrument.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall take into consideration all relevant views and proposals present and future and also address questions related to its mandate.

The Ad Hoc Committee will report to the Conference on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the 1999 session.

2. To re-establish, for the duration of its 1999 session, the Ad hoc Committee under item 1 of the agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament" to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices.

The Ad Hoc Committee shall present a report to the Conference on the progress of its work before the conclusion of the 1999 session.

3. To establish, under item 1 of the agenda entitled "Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament", an Ad Hoc Working Group to exchange information and views on endeavours towards nuclear disarmament with a view to identifying measures that could be subject of negotiations in the Conference.

In discharging its functions, the Ad Hoc Working Group will take into account current efforts and existing proposals and views, as well as proposals that may emerge from the study and discussion.

The Ad Hoc Working Group shall present a report to the Conference on Disarmament on progress of its work before the conclusion of the 1999 session.

4. To re-appoint a Special Coordinator under agenda item 3 entitled "Prevention of an arms race in outer space" to continue to seek the views of its Members with a view to developing consensus on a mandate for an Ad Hoc Committee on this item.

5. To re-appoint a Special Coordinator under agenda item 6 entitled "Comprehensive programme of disarmament" to seek the views of its Members on the most appropriate way to deal with the questions related to anti-personnel landmines taking into account, inter alia, developments outside the Conference.

6. To re-appoint a Special Coordinator under agenda item 7 entitled "Transparency in armaments" to seek the views of its Members on the most appropriate way to deal with the questions related to this item.

7. In implementing these decisions, the Special Coordinators shall take into consideration all relevant views and proposals, present and future, and present early and regular reports on the outcome of their consultations throughout the session and final reports before the conclusion of the 1999 session.

8. The taking of these decisions contained in paragraphs 3, 4, 5 and 6 does not prejudge the positions of delegations on, or the eventual establishment of, further subsidiary bodies on the issues identified, but reflects agreement to advance the Conference's work with a view to reaching consensus. This decision is also taken without prejudice to the rights of Members of the Conference to move forward with positions and proposals already made or to be put forward in the future.

9. The Conference also decides to re-appoint Special Coordinators on the Review of its Agenda, the Expansion of its Membership and its Improved and Effective Functioning. These Special Coordinators, in discharging their duties and functions, will take into account all proposals and views, as well as future initiatives. The Conference requests these Special Coordinators to report to it before the conclusion of its 1999 session.